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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,657	09/29/2003	Byung Soo Song	HI-0179	9020
34610 7590 10/22/2007 KED & ASSOCIATES, LLP P.O. Box 221200 Chantilly, VA 20153-1200			EXAMINER RAHMJOO, MANUCHER	
			ART UNIT 2624	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/671,657	Applicant(s) SONG ET AL.	
	Examiner Mike Rahmjoo	Art Unit 2624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/20/07.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 4,5,9-11,28 and 31-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4-5,9-11,28,31-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4-5,9-11 and 28, 31-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mikoshiba et al (US Patent 6496194), hereinafter, Mikoshiba in view of Okomoto et al (publication number 2001- 083926).

As per claims 4 and 28 Mikoshiba teaches detecting each false contour generation regions from each of first video data for a previous frame period and a second video data for a current frame period, each false contour generation region including a pixel corresponding to a gray scale generating a false contour and pixels corresponding to adjacent gray scales see for example the abstract (false contour occurrence corresponding to false contour detection in video) and fig. 15 to 18 B achieves the reduction (corresponding to generation and detection of false contours) of false contours by comparing the luminance levels of pixels between two successive frames and by superimposing a weighted equalizing pulse on any pixel whose bit state has changed and column 15 lines 60- 67 for the false contour compensation between two successive frames corresponding to first and second video data;

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extracting a motion information from the detected false contour generation regions of the first video data the second video data see for example column 12 lines 45- 55 and fig. 14 wherein the comparator 410a which compares bit data in the n-th frame with bit data in the (n+1)th frame, and outputs "+1" for any bit in the bit data that changed from ON to OFF (comparing and outputting steps corresponding to extracting motion information);

displaying transformed video data based on the compensated false contour corresponding to for example the abstract and column 15 line 59 which is display method of reduced false contours;

setting a compensation value based on the velocity value from the motion information see for example column 16 lines 50- 55 wherein compensation is a based on the moving speed and column 36 lines 45- 50 wherein reducing of halftone disturbance (corresponding to compensation) is made for moving images at various speeds and directions;

adding or subtracting the compensation value to or from any pixels whose gray scale (adjusting gray scale) has generated the false contour depending on a direction (e.g., column 36 lines 45- 50 for the various direction and fig. 26- 31b) from the motion information see for example fig. 23 and column 23 lines 8- 15 wherein motion compensation equalizing (addition and subtraction) and luminance blocks which are used to display gray scale level of a pixel are used.

However, Mikoshiba does not teach setting the compensation value based on a size of the gray scale.

Okamoto et al teaches setting the compensation value based on a size of the gray scale (steps s4- s5 corresponding compensation according to the size of the gradation variation).

It would have been made obvious to one of ordinary skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Okamoto et al into Mikoshiba to have compensation value based on the size of the gray scale and therefore affect the gradation variations by accurate detection resulting into accurate compensation of the false contour and high quality animation production on display see for example the abstract.

As per claims 5 and 31 Mikoshiba teaches the first video data of the previous frame period is stored such that the first video data is delayed during one frame period by a frame memory see for example fig. 14 and column 12 line 39.

As per claims 9 and 32 Mikoshiba teaches the false contour is generated when a gray scale having a combination of a plurality of sub-fields is any one of 16, 32, 64 and 128 see for example fig. 1 and 19.

As per claims 10 and 33 Mikoshiba teaches matching the first video data of the previous frame period with the second video data of the current frame period see for example column 12 lines 45- 55 for the equalization through comparison performed in fig. 14 corresponding to matching between successive frames; and extracting (corresponding to determination through comparison) the motion information from a change of the movement between the false contour generation region of the first video data and second false contour generation region of the second video data see for

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example column 12 lines 45- 55 and fig. 14 wherein the comparator 410a which compares bit data in the n-th frame with bit data in the (n+1)th frame, and outputs "+1" for any bit in the bit data that changed from ON to OFF (comparing and outputting steps corresponding to extracting motion information).

As per claims 11 and 34 Mikoshiba teaches size (corresponding to increase from left to the right of the screen in column 9 line 25 and also the increase to 256 scale in column 11 line 42), direction and velocity value (corresponding to speed) of a gray scale see for example column 9 lines 20- 35.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 08/20/2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

As per applicant's remarks on page 7 applicant recites "Mikoshiba does not teach or suggest detecting false contour generation regions from each of first video data and second video data, each false contour generation region including a pixel corresponding to a gray scale generating a false contour and pixels corresponding to adjacent gray scales" and "the Advisory Action previously stated that these features were not recited in the rejected claims. However, these features are now clearly recited" and further "false contour generation pixels and false contour generation regions are different"

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

As to the broadest reasonable interpretation by examiner any two or more combination of pixels forms a region. False contour generation between two successive

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frames is established according to the citations made of the record from Mikoshiba. A frame has said combinations of pixels and therefore a very large area or region of pixels is thereby formed. Contradictions made to the contrary lacking support establish weak and baseless grounds of arguments. It is also noted citation of the features missing from prior claims do not necessarily provide proper grounds for allowing said claims. Said missing feature as noted, were observations made by examiner.

As per applicant's remarks on page 8- 9 applicant argues "The detecting of changes in bit data on a pixel-by-pixel basis does not teach or suggest extracting a motion information from the detected false contour generation region".

Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Column 13 lines 15- 35 recites "the states of the ON blocks within the frame or field in two pixels on both sides of the contiguous pixel sequence are *detected*, and a predetermined luminance adjusting luminance block is selected *based on* the number of contiguous pixels, the states of the two pixels on both sides of the contiguous pixel sequence, and the state of the interframe or interfield change of the activation pattern. Then, the selected luminance adjusting luminance block is added to or subtracted from the source signals of the contiguous pixels ". Therefore, as obviated, a detection of said contiguous pixels and their states is made possible through comparator 410a with no other pixels which are involved (implicitly corresponding to extraction of said pixels). Further operations (e.g., selected luminance adjusting luminance block is added to or subtracted from the source signals of the

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contiguous pixels) are made only to said pixels and the display signal is output accordingly.

On page 9, Applicant argues "in the case of a fine pattern, inability to reduce disturbances sufficiently may result" and "the cited sections of Mikoshiba do not teach or suggest setting a compensation value based on a velocity value (and a size of the gray scale) from the motion information" and "Alleviating the problem of moving-image false contours in video for moving images moving at various speeds and in various directions does not teach or suggest adaptively setting a compensation value based on the velocity value according to the image moving velocity" and "Mikoshiba does not teach or suggest setting a compensation value based on the velocity value (and a size of the gray scale) from the motion information".

Examiner respectfully disagrees and responds as follows:

1) no fine pattern has been claimed and said inability to reduce disturbances which may result is hypothetical. In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., fine pattern and the inability to reduce disturbances) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

2) the rejection made of the record is USC 103 (a) rejection and therefore the rejection is made over Mikoshiba in view of a secondary reference (Okomoto et al). Setting a compensation ...based on size of gray scale is made through a secondary

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reference. In response to applicant's arguments against the references individually, one cannot show nonobviousness by attacking references individually where the rejections are based on combinations of references. See *In re Keller*, 642 F.2d 413, 208 USPQ 871 (CCPA 1981); *In re Merck & Co.*, 800 F.2d 1091, 231 USPQ 375 (Fed. Cir. 1986).

3) setting a compensation value is not claimed according to the image moving velocity. Mikoshiba teaches setting a compensation value based on the velocity value from the motion information see for example column 16 lines 50- 55 wherein compensation is a based on the moving speed and column 36 lines 45- 50 wherein reducing of halftone disturbance (corresponding to compensation) is made for moving images at various speeds and directions.


Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mike Rahmjoo whose telephone number is 571-272-7789. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM- 5 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matt Bella can be reached on 571-272-7778. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mike Rahmjoo


October 11, 2007